

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Tue Jan 10 01:11:28 1995
Date: Mon, 9 Jan 95 20:51:05 -0600
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Message-Id: <9501100251.AA13783@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>
Subject: 9V Battery Rechargeable

Last Sat at the meeting someone asked or brought up the subject of 9V batteries. I had forgotten this or maybe I posted it when I found out. Several months ago, maybe over 4 months ago, I purchased a Panasonic 9V Rechargeable Nickel-Cadmium Battery at Sam's here in Dallas. Forgot the exact price, but something like \$6 or so. Part number P9NPA and it is the first Ni-Cad that I've gotten that was at least 9V when charged. It's rated at 100mAh, but I am using one in the OHR WM-1 and it works great. Also have another now in the MXM simple receiver.

My experiences have been that previous 9V rechargeable batteries were at 7.2V or so. Nowhere near the 9V that are supposed to replace.

FYI

dit dit
Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60 adams@sgi.com

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Tue Jan 10 22:43:32 1995
Date: Tue, 10 Jan 1995 15:00:50 -0500 (EST)
From: "DONALD A. COLEMAN (EXT. 2850)" <DACOLEMAN@fair1.fairfield.edu>
Subject: Re: 9V Battery Rechargeable
Message-Id: <01HL00NTGEOG8WWB9P@fair1.fairfield.edu>

Chuck et all,

I wonder if that Panasonic rechargeable has one more cell in it than older Radio Shack models had. I can confirm that such older bats have perhaps eight volts tops even just after charging.

72.98942386

Don Coleman, W1VOQ

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Tue Jan 10 11:45:53 1995
Date: Tue, 10 Jan 1995 07:14:05 -0800
Message-Id: <199501101514.HAA01367@ix2.ix.netcom.com>
From: gamma7@ix.netcom.com (James Beischel)
Subject: <didn't bother with a subject>

subscribe

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Wed Jan 11 00:40:03 1995
Date: Tue, 10 Jan 95 16:10:13 PST
From: dh@deneb.csustan.edu (Doug Hendricks)
Message-Id: <9501110010.AA09879@deneb.csustan.edu>
Subject: ARCI QRP SSB Contest Sunday

I tried to up load this earlier and failed miserably. Sorry for the bandwidth waste.

This weekend is the QRP ARCI Winter Fireside SSB Sprint, specifically the date is Sunday, Jan. 15th and the time has been changed to give you any 4 hours of your choice in the 8 hour time slot of noon to 8PM local time. The four hours don't have to be consecutive. Suggested calling frequency for 75 Meters has been changed to 3865 from 3985.

The following information is from the Oct. 94 issue of QRP Quarterly:

EXCHANGE:

Member - RS, State/Province/Country, ARCI Number

Non Member - RS, State/Province/ Country, Power out

QSO POINTS:

Member = 5 pts.

Non-Member, Different Continent = 4 pts.

Non-Member, Same Continent = 2 pts.

MULTIPLIER:

SPC (State/Province/Country) Total All Bands

The same station may be worked on more than one band for QSO points and SPC credit.

BONUS POINTS: (homebrew equipment used on any band worked)

Bonus: +2000 HB Transmitter Used

+3000 HB Receiver Used

+5000 HB Transceiver Used

POWER SUPPLY MULTIPLIER: (bonus multiplier)

x 1.00 = commercial power

x 1.25 = solar, natural, battery charged by natural.

POWER MULTIPLIER:

0-1 Watt Out (0-2 Watts, PEP SSB) = x10

1-5 Watts Out (2-10 Watts, PEP SSB) = x7

SUGGESTED SSB FREQUENCIES:

160 = 1810 KHz

80 = 3865 KHz

40 = 7285 KHz

20 = 14285 KHz

15 = 21385 KHz

10 = 28385 KHz

6 = 50885 KHz

CALLING:

CQ QRP, CQ QRP, CQ QRP, DE N6GA, N6GA, QRP TEST K

SCORE:

Points x SPC x Power Multiplier x Power Supply Multiplier + Bonus

Entry may be an all band a single band, Hi Band (20, 15, 10 & 6) or as a Low Band (160, 80 & 40). All entries will compete against other entries in their own class of entry only. Certificates to the top 10 scores for the QSO and Certificates to the top 3 Scores for the Sprint. Certificates to the top score in each single band, LO-band, and HI-band. Certificates for the top score in each class in each SPC. The contest manager reserves the right to recognize special significant entries with a certificate award.

Entry includes a copy of the logs and a separate summary sheet. Include duplicate check sheets with entries of 100 QSO's or more. Indicate the total time on air, including time spent listening. All entries must include a complete, legible, name, call, and address. All entries must be received within 30 days following the contest. Late entries will be counted as check logs.

Members indicate their QRP ARCI member number on all logs. Members and non-members indicate their input or output power for each entry and band. The highest power level used will determine the power multiplier. Output power is considered as 1/2 of the input power.

Include a description of homebrew equipment, commercial equipment, and antennas used with each entry. Homebrew bonus points may not be claimed if a description is not included with the entry.

A summary sheet and sample log sheets are available from the contest manager for an SASE with one unit of postage. Include an SASE with one unit of postage in the entry for a copy of the contest results. Results will be published in the next available issue of QRP ARCI Quarterly.

The final decision on all matters concerning the contests rests with the contest manager.

Send entries to:
Cam Hartford, N6GA
1959 Bridgeport Ave.
Claremont, CA 91711

Hope to see you on the air. I will be at the station of W6MMA, Vern Wright in Placerville, CA. Jim Cates, WA6GER will also be there. We will be using my call, KI6DS, and current plans are to operate on 75, 40 & 20. Listen for us and hope to work you QRP SSB.

72,
Doug KI6DS

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Tue Jan 10 23:54:34 1995
Date: Tue, 10 Jan 95 13:33:18 PST
From: dh@deneb.csustan.edu (Doug Hendricks)
Message-Id: <9501102133.AA09585@deneb.csustan.edu>
Subject: ARCI SSB Contest

IZ
**B00000000000000000
**B100000000000045a
IZ
**B00000000000000000
**B100000000000045a

Sorry misfire. Will try later. 72,Doug

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Tue Jan 10 20:11:42 1995
Date: Tue, 10 Jan 95 16:32:55 -0600
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Message-Id: <9501102232.AA15924@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>
Subject: CW FOX Schedule

January 6, 1995 Revision B. :-)

Gang,

Ooops. Previous post missing two and I apologize.

Hard to believe that we are so close to the end. Just seems

like yesterday we started.

WARNING: Times and dates are in UTC, so for 0000Z, it's the day before here in the USofA.

| name | call | email address | QTH |
|-----------------|--------|----------------------------|----------------------|
| Chuck Adams | K5FO | adams@sgi.com | Dallas, TX |
| Bob Easton | N2IPY | bobea@watson.ibm.com | Sloatsburg, NY |
| Craig LaBarge | WB3GCK | 74740.3166@CompuServe.com | Phoenixville, PA |
| Mark Cronenwett | KA7ULD | ka7uld@ix.netcom.com | San Jose, CA |
| Pete Rossi | WA3NNA | rossi@vfl.paramax.com | Newton Square, PA |
| Bob Cutter | KI0G | bcutter@csn.org | Glenwood Springs, CO |
| Dave Adams | N9UXU | dave@flowserver.stem.com | Indianapolis, IN |
| Ron Stark | KU7Y | mswmod@nimbus.sage.unr.edu | Sun Valley, NV |
| Stan Goldstein | N6ULU | stan@cruzio.com | Watsonville, CA |
| Clay Wynn | N4AOX | wyn@ornl.gov | Alcoa, TN |
| Ted Albert | KF8EE | teda@meaddata.com | Loveland, OH |

| Week of: | FOX | Date | Time(UCT) | Freq |
|-------------|--------|--------|------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Jan 8th | N4AOX | Jan 13 | 00:00Z-01:00Z | 7.101 MHz & UP |
| | | | 01:15Z-03:00Z | 7.041 MHz & UP |
| Jan 15th | WB3GCK | Jan 17 | 0000-0200Z | 7.110 (30min) - 7.040 |
| Jan 22nd | KF8EE | Jan 23 | 0200-0400Z | 7.040 |
| Jan 29th | KI0G | Jan 31 | 7.110 0200-0300Z | 7.040 0300-0330Z. |
| Feb 5th | KA7ULD | Feb 7 | 0400-0600Z | 7.040-7.150 |
| Feb 12th | WA3NNA | | | |
| Feb 19th | KU7Y | Feb 21 | 0300-0500Z | 7.110-7.115 (1st hr) 7.035-045 (2nd) |
| Feb 26th | N9UXU | Mar 4 | 0300-0500Z | 7.110-7.120 (both hrs) |
| Chuck Adams | K5FO | CP-60 | adams@sgi.com | |

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Tue Jan 10 09:00:47 1995
Date: Mon, 9 Jan 1995 22:07:04 -0700 (MST)
From: Rick Zabrodski <zabrodsk@med.ucalgary.ca>
Subject: exploding oner followup #1
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950109214857.597C-100000@ume>

I have been amazed to here about all the other exploding oners out there!
This is a little bit like "coming out of the closet"!
Had junk box substitutes for t1 and t2.....(all three transitors gone)
While looking a kit pictorial I have found what may be wrong? It looks like
the emitter collector connections are reversed. (I am referring to Kangas
kit).....I followed the pictorial, did not check it against schematic
until this evening....."2nd opinions" appreciated!

Anyway, used junk box parts and applied 9v to circuit (t3 removed).....nothing.....(bad or good).....then I touched 2n222a (warm, not hot).....oscillator starts to work, same thing if I touch the variable capacitor! ONLY RIGHT HAND WORKS!.....remove watch on left hand, now left hand works as well as right! (I assume my hand is adding some capacitance to circuit?) Any thoughts on this one?

Dr. Rick Zabrodski BSc, MD, CCFP(E) * VE6GK
Email: zabrodsk@med.ucalgary.ca * NorCal 519 ARCI 7099 GQRP 8329
Phone 403-271-5123 Fax 403-225-1276 * "Power is no subsitute for skill"

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Tue Jan 10 23:38:23 1995
Date: Tue, 10 Jan 1995 18:45:36 -0700 (MST)
From: Rick Zabrodski <zabrodsk@med.ucalgary.ca>
Subject: exploding oner followup #2
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950110184139.5984D-100000@ume>

independant confirmation that the pictorial was wrong and the transitor T2 was reversed.....glad I took a second look!
Parts pickup tommorrow, rebuild, then on to bigger things.

I hope this may help those who wrote with similiar experiences and never figured out what went wrong! Final installment in a few days.

Dr. Rick Zabrodski BSc, MD, CCFP(E) * VE6GK
Email: zabrodsk@med.ucalgary.ca * NorCal 519 ARCI 7099 GQRP 8329
Phone 403-271-5123 Fax 403-225-1276 * "Power is no subsitute for skill"

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Tue Jan 10 21:42:31 1995
From: rossi@VFL.Paramax.COM
Message-Id: <9501102314.AA10530@gvlf9-a>
Date: Tue, 10 Jan 95 18:14:00 EST
Subject: FOR SALE (?) -- OHR 30 Meter Spirit

I have a 9 month old OHR 30 meter Spirit. Assembled. Works great.
But I have hardly used it. Trying to decide if I should sell it or not.

Anyone interested?

Pete Rossi - WA3NNA
rossi@vfl.paramax.com
Unisys Corporation - Government Systems Group
Valley Forge Engineering Center - Paoli, Pennsylvania

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Jan 11 00:45:24 1995
From: ARDAI@MAVEN.dnet.teradyne.com
Date: Tue, 10 Jan 1995 20:23:42 -0500 (EST)
Subject: Getting removed from the list
Message-Id: <01HLOZXEZGDU006QDU@A1GATE.TERADYNE.COM>

Just a reminder to all - if your mailer starts sending me bounces, especially 'no such user' or 'no such host', I will remove you from the list. Temporary bounces (timeouts, disk full) are ignored. As it is, I get about 50-100 bounces a day, and I really can't spend more than an hour a day managing the lists before my boss starts noticing :-). Feel free to resubscribe after the problem is corrected.

Also, if possible, try to subscribe from a site that does not send me those annoying 'I couldn't deliver your message in 30 minutes/1 hour/3 days' messages. They just add to the workload. If you have any questions or problems, let me know at nlist@netcom.com.

/mike

PS. To subscribe or unsubscribe to any of my lists, please send mail to listserv@netcom.com, not to the entire list. Thanks.

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Jan 10 07:35:47 1995
From: "RICHARD HIEBER" <SZ0026@daphne.rrze.uni-erlangen.de>
Date: Tue, 10 Jan 1995 11:49:49 MET
Subject: I QRP club is born!
Message-Id: <152FB3805A9@daphne.rrze.uni-erlangen.de>

Hi gang,

I received some announcements from an Italian ham via Packet Radio that I would like to forward to you. I shortened the header file for brevity's sake; everything else is left untouched. My apologies for all the shouting involved. I am not sure if Franz knows about Chucks signature so don't blame him of plagiarism ...

73 es 72 de Richard, DL8MFQ @ DB0SIF.DEU.EU, aka AA8CP

I7FFE > ALL 27.12.94 12:53 34 Lines 1052 Bytes #23 @EU
BID : 40836_IK7NXQ

Subj: I QRP CLUB IN ITALY

>From: I7FFE@IK7NXQ.IPUG.ITA.EU
To : ALL@EU

THIS MSG IS ADDRESSED TO ALL OM INTERESTED IN QRP ACTIVITY.
AFTER A LONG AND BEAUTIFUL TRADITION, THE LAST OCTOBER 1994 IS BORN
IN ITALY THE " I QRP CLUB ".

THE I QRP CLUB HAS HIS FOUNDATIONS IN HAM SPIRIT AND IN THE IARU
ORGANIZATIONS.

IN THE I QRP CLUB ALL THE MEMBERS ARE EQUALLY IMPORTANT. NO PRESIDENT,
NO SECRETARY, ETCETERA ETCETERA.

NO SUBSCRIPTIONS DUES.

IF YOU WILL CONTRIBUTE TO I QRP CLUB YOU'RE WELCOME.

ACCEPTED ONLY SAE, IRC, ONLY FOR CORRESPONDENCE.

IF YOU HAVE SKEDS OR INFOS REQUEST, OR OTHER, YOU CAN SEND YOURS MSG
VIA OUR SERVERS.

MANY OF US ARE G-QRP MEMBERS.

FROM 00.00 UTC OF SATURDAY 18TH MARCH 1995 TO 24.00 UTC OF SUNDAY 19TH
MARCH 1995 WILL RUNNING THE 1ST QRP SPRING TEST 1995.

BEFORE JUNE OR JULY 1995 WILL BE A NICE QRP MEETING IN A LOVELY LOCALITY
OF CENTRAL ITALY.

INFO ABT CONTEST: MARCELLO IK7HIN@I70ZV IPUG.ITA.EU

INFO TO JOIN TO I QRP CLUB: FRANZ I7FFE@IK7NXQ IPUG.ITA.EU

WELCOME ES 72 73 DE FRANZ I7FFE I QRP CLUB#4 G-QRP#7924
DIT DIT

I7FFE > QRP 04.01.95 15:47 29 Lines 996 Bytes #365 @WW
Subj: I QRP CLUB AWARD

>From: I7FFE@IK7NXQ.IPUG.ITA.EU
To : QRP@WW

I.Q.C.A

I QRP CLUB AWARD

The IQCA is a award devoted to all OM and SWL that will contact or listen
minimum 25 I QRP CLUB stations, obtaining minimum score of 50 points.

1 point QS0 QRP <---> QR0
2 points QS0 QRP <---> QRP

All the bands. No WARC
Every station can be contacted only ONCE.
No QSL. Request log with two signature of two OM and with the number
of I QRP CLUB stations contacted.
Send 5 IRC or 5 \$.
Request and info:
Award Manager IK7HIN Marcello Surace
via Dante 239 70122 BARI - ITALY
IK7HIN@IK7HDY
Phone 080-5238649

I7FFE > QRP 31.12.94 17:01 40 Lines 1638 Bytes #364 @EU
Subj: I QRP SPRING TEST 1995

>From: I7FFE@IK7NXQ.IPUG.ITA.EU
To : QRP@EU

1st I QRP SPRING TEST 1995
Organized from I QRP CLUB - ITALY

Date.....18 and 19 march 1995
Time.....From 00.00 UTC of saturday 18 march 1995
to 24.00 UTC of sunday 19 march 1995.
Participating.....All the OM and SWL IARU Societies members
of Region 1, 2, 3.
Bands and mode.....From 10 to 80 m. No WARC. Only CW.
Classes.....A) Single operator QRP (P<5W)
B) Multi operator QRP (Single Tx)
C) SWL
Reports.....RST + I QRP CLUB number (if I QRP CLUB members)
Points.....1 point QSO QRP<--->QRO
2 points QSO QRP<--->QRP
Multipliers.....1 own country
2 countries of own continent
3 continents different from own
Score.....Points QSO(sum) x Points Multipliers(sum)
SWL.....Like OM
Prizes.....1st I QRP CLUB
1st Absolute
1st European
Diploms for all that request.
Logs.....Like IARU regulations. Send logs to:
Contest Manager IK7HIN Marcello Surace
via Dante 239 - 70122 BARI ITALY
Phone 080-5238649

IK7HIN@IK7HDY

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Jan 10 17:12:16 1995
Date: Tue, 10 Jan 1995 17:56:51 GMT
From: goran hosinsky <hosinsky@royac4.royac.iac.es>
Message-Id: <9501101756.AA08806@royac4.royac.iac.es>
Subject: Internet solar indices?

Can I get sunspot or flux data anywhere over the internet for
propagation calculations? WWW reception is very sporadic here
73

Goran, ea8yu
hosinsky@royac.iac.es

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Jan 10 20:16:58 1995
From: Johnson_Dan@AAC.COM
Message-Id: <9501110207.22614.AD@smrouter.AAC.COM>
Date: Tue, 10 Jan 95 17:59:00 PST
Subject: Re: Internet solar indices?

Goran,

> Can I get sunspot or flux data anywhere over the internet for
> propagation calculations? WWW reception is very sporadic
> here

You might subscribe to "w1law-list" the same way you subscribed to "qrp-l". (The same server handles both, but I've temporarily misplaced my notes.) The traffic is a trickle of ARRL bulletins, but the one of interest is the weekly "Propagation de KT7H". Aside from propagation forecasts, this lists the daily sunspot indices and solar flux for the previous week with comments on A and K index behavior and geomagnetic activity over the period.

GL ES 72 DE KC4EWT
Johnson_Dan@aac.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Jan 10 11:20:57 1995
Date: Tue, 10 Jan 1995 05:56:36 -0800
Message-Id: <199501101356.FAA22540@mail3.netcom.com>
From: "Ted Kell" <kell@mpac.jsc.nasa.gov>
Subject: Keyer Paddles

I have seen, either physically or in ads, three kinds of dual paddle keys, the Bencher, the Kent, and the Jones keys. If you have been able to use and/or compare any of these three, I would be interested in your comments. Are there other keys that I should either be looking at, or avoiding?

73 & 72

Ted Kell (kell@mpac.jsc.nasa.gov)

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Jan 10 17:33:23 1995
Date: Tue, 10 Jan 1995 15:09:02 -0330 (NST)
From: Robert Gobrick <bgobrick@random.ucs.mun.ca>
Subject: Re: Keyer Paddles
Message-Id: <Pine.ULT.3.91.950110150420.22213A-100000@random.ucs.mun.ca>

Ted - another keyer to look at is the Vibroflex Brass Racer which uses magnetic action for the tensioning (the Brass Racer is based on the older Scotia design (actually they purchased Scotia)) and is one of my favorite keys along with the Bencher - certainly with less moving parts (those magnetic fields are really hard for a mechanical designer to understand ;-)) it is a little more rugged than a Bencher.

There are others out there so good luck with your search - actually the true test is the "feel" and that you won't know until you use one.

72 Bob VO1DRB/WA6ERB

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Jan 10 18:31:06 1995
Message-Id: <9501102008.AA0093@bobeia.watson.ibm.com>
Date: Tue, 10 Jan 95 14:59:54 EST
From: "Robert E. Easton " <bobeia@watson.ibm.com>
Subject: Keyer Paddles

My Kent paddle is terrific. I can't do a comparison with the Jones or Bencher since I have not used them. I chose the Kent specifically because it does not have the single, exposed, wrap-around spring that the Bencher has. The Kent has separate, simple coil pressure springs that sit in a drilled channel. I was skeptical about the single wrap-around spring being easily dislocated.

The Kent paddle weighs a little over a pound (I guess!), heavy enough to stay put. It's very easily adjustable to the feel that you like. I like very close gaps and sometimes set it with only a .005 gap. The paddles are -almost- triangular and can be oriented with the peak pointing up or down to suit your taste.

I ordered mine as a kit. Assembly was very easy and took only a few minutes.

All in all, I like it for everyday use. For lugging around though, you might want something lighter.

73, Bob - N2IPY

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Jan 10 20:29:46 1995
From: Johnson_Dan@AAC.COM
Message-Id: <9501110207.22614.AC@smrouter.AAC.COM>
Date: Tue, 10 Jan 95 17:51:00 PST
Subject: Re: Keyer Paddles

Hi Ted,

> I have seen, either physically or in ads, three kinds of dual paddle keys, the
> Bencher, the Kent, and the Jones keys. If you have been able to use and/or
> compare any of these three, I would be interested in your comments. Are there
> other keys that I should either be looking at, or avoiding?

My first set of paddles was the Bencher. A lot of people swear by them, but I found them cantankerous and unreliable. Perhaps mine got manhandled a bit too much, but once in a while they would come off their bearings (held in place with a spring). I like the contacts spaced closely together for QRQ, but adjusted in this manner, the Benchers would sometimes get stuck sending "dits" or "dahs". I've heard other ops on the air experiencing the same problem. Endless frustration.

The only other one I've used for any substantial length of time is the Vibroplex dual paddles. Vibroplex makes both a single and dual paddle model, and both are styled like shortened bugs with rectangular metal bases. I am in love. The Vibroplex dual paddle is nearly indestructable, can be adjusted to close tolerances with no problems, and is (just about) heavy enough to survive my manhandling without slipping. (Dust or other particulate matter on the desk is the killer.) My sending proficiency improved the day I got it.

I have not used the Vibroplex Brass Racer - this is a dual paddle on a triangular base which uses magnets instead of springs. Always wanted to try it, because it's got a simple and elegant design. There are other magnet-based paddles, too, by other manufacturers.

Hope that helps. It's really a personal choice, and the best way to decide what's best for you is to borrow someone's paddles and try a few real QSOs with them. If that's not possible and there's a ham store nearby, hook several kinds onto a demonstration rig, key its sidetone, and fiddle with its adjustments. You'll know what feels best to you.

GL ES 72+1 DE KC4EWT
Johnson_Dan@aac.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Jan 10 23:27:48 1995
Date: Tue, 10 Jan 95 16:38:28 EST

From: jps@Kodak.COM (John Spoonhower)
Message-Id: <9501102138.AA10314@apt07.Kodak.COM>
Subject: Re: Keyer Paddles

> From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Jan 10 15:43:11 1995
> >From spoon Tue Jan 10 15:43:11 1995
> Date: Tue, 10 Jan 1995 05:56:36 -0800
> To: QRP-L@netcom.com
> Subject: Keyer Paddles
> Precedence: list
> X-Lines: 8
>
> I have seen, either physically or in ads, three kinds of dual paddle keys, the
> Bencher, the Kent, and the Jones keys. If you have been able to use and/or
> compare any of these three, I would be interested in your comments. Are there
> other keys that I should either be looking at, or avoiding?
>
> 73 & 72
>
> Ted Kell (kell@mpac.jsc.nasa.gov)
>

Ted, I have the Bencher keyer at home and I really don't have many complaints.
I have tried the Jones Key at the Rochester Hamfest, and I really liked it!
It has a really solid feel; I would love to get one some day. If cost
weren't a factor I'd go for the Jones Key. Unfortunately for me cost IS
a factor.....
72, John, kc2du

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Jan 10 19:27:57 1995
Message-Id: <199501101823.KAA15873@netcom.netcom.com>
Date: Tue, 10 Jan 95 11:19:21 EST
From: C=BAILEY%IS%211EIS@PAMDT.ANG.AF.MIL
Subject: KT3A Sierra Notes

Well it works now! Here are some notes for anyone who has yet to build the
Sierra. It took me (and I'm slow and picky) about 40 hours to build this
one. The main pc board took about 24 hours. The band module for 20 meters
took about 8 hours. The cabinet painting/lettering and construction took
about another 8 hours. It took about 4 hours to get the rig aligned using
test equipment.

Some recommendations for the builders. Use crystal insulators under the base
of the crystal, or make sure that there is some space between the crystals
and board traces. Scrape any silkscreen paint that may be on soldering pads.
The paint dislikes solder sharing the same space.

The alignment is easy. I "wound up" (pun) with about 59 turns on L7. I just rewound the thing with 3 extra turns and kept removing turns until the VFO range was correct. You may want to have a few extra turns on yours. It is easier to remove than to add. The module trimmer caps are touchy. I thought I had made a mistake or had a failed component when in fact, I had my PMO filter tuned to the sum frequency instead of the difference frequency. This is where you should really check the frequency of the PMO filter and save yourself grief. When this was set to the sum frequency, I could still receive okay. I did not notice anything until I went to align the transmit section.

Thanks NorCal for the fine rig, now if I can only rid myself of that crummy QRM from one of my neighbors.....

72 de Cameron, KT3A.

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Jan 10 05:13:31 1995
From: rohrwerk@holonet.net
Date: Mon, 9 Jan 1995 21:57:48 -0800
Message-Id: <199501100557.VAA00648@holonet.net>
Subject: MOSFETs

On 01-06-95 pt@opal.com.au wrote to wwm@wa8tzg.mi.org:

> In Australia, we have always had difficulty getting parts used in ARRL
> handbook designs, the RCA mosfets (eg. 40673) were typical. In the
> mid 70s when mosfets became popular in receiver design because of
> their good linearity compared to bipolar transistors, MPF121's were
> substituted with success for lots of unobtainable mosfets.

I was just reflecting on the demise of the MOSFET. The old ARRL "Solid State Design" book features them prominently, but isn't too concrete about exactly how they stack up versus the diode ring mixer.

For a while I liked the W7ZOI one-MOSFET VFO buffer for low parts count; but they are delicate. I also have a Signal/One CX7A (recent hamfest special; no, I didn't shell out \$2000+ for it 20 years ago) that is absolutely full of them.

The famous 40673 is now discontinued, and the replacement from the NTE universal line, the NTE222, costs \$4 at our local supply house, and they're easy to fry while fiddling with surrounding circuitry.

Is that MPF121 still easily available? Do any mainline manufacturers still make a good replacement for the 40673 for less money?

: John Seboldt rohrwerk@holonet.net / I am Bach of Borg...
: Amateur radio K0JD... / your style will be

: Church of the Annunciation, / assimilated.
: Minneapolis /

-> Alice4Mac 2.3 E QWK Eval:05Mar94

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Jan 10 17:21:37 1995
From: lhalliday@creo.bc.ca
Date: Tue, 10 Jan 95 09:32:03 PST
Message-Id: <9500107897.AA789759123@mail.creo.bc.ca>
Subject: Re: MOSFETs

The elegance and high impedance of many 40673 circuits impresses me too, but I too cringe at the cost of NTE222s (\$CDN6.50 these days).

I've found discarded 1970s FM radios and TV sets to often be a useful source of these and similar goodies, albeit usually with 2SK and 3SK numbers on them. I'm putting together a MOSFET preamp for Mode A downlink reception (the 10m design that used to be in the ARRL Handbook) and a dead TV set's VHF tuner supplied both a 3SK51 MOSFET and a handful of feed-through capacitors.

One of my all-time finds was a couple of old VHF commercial radios that I got for 5 bucks each. I considered putting them on 2m until I looked inside and decided they were worth far more for parts. The list of active parts alone is impressive: 2N3819, 2N3866, MPF102, J310, 2N5589, 2N5591, BGY36 (an early output module: 15 Watts, Class C, 130-160 MHz), various TTL, assorted varactor diodes and less exotic transistors, and even two sturdy aluminium chassis.

Another part you often see in old designs is the infamous 7360 beam deflection tube, which was used extensively for balanced modulators and mixers. Unlike the 40673, which is easily outperformed by Schottky diode DBMs, 7360-based balanced modulators have excellent carrier suppression, even by 1995 standards...and if you think 40673s are expensive, try pricing 7360s. I have two spares for my Swan 350 (a QRO rig - sorry!), and tried not to scream too loudly when I paid for them, because the rig is junk without them. The 6HF5 final tubes are plentiful and cheap by comparison...

Scouring the surplus stores and flea markets is an art in itself. I remember at last year's Burnaby ARC flea market (check the notices in the February magazines - hint, hint :-) taking \$CDN100 with me. I ended up with a huge pile of _ham radio_ magazines, a couple of boxes of miscellaneous junk (toroids [in their original packages], LEDs, and things), and an FRG-7 which sounded dreadful until I plugged a real speaker in to it.

73 from Burnaby,
laura VE7LDH

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Tue Jan 10 20:02:32 1995
Date: Tue, 10 Jan 1995 12:30:52 -0800
Message-Id: <199501102030.MAA01845@ix2.ix.netcom.com>
From: mjsilva@ix.netcom.com (michael silva)
Subject: Re: MOSFETs

>The famous 40673 is now discontinued, and the replacement from the NTE
>universal line, the NTE222, costs \$4 at our local supply house, and
they're
>easy to fry while fiddling with surrounding circuitry.
>
>Is that MPF121 still easily available? Do any mainline manufacturers
still
>make a good replacement for the 40673 for less money?
>
Dan's Small Parts has MPF-131s for about \$1.00 each. Looks like it's
similar to a -121 with a bit looser specs. I picked some up mostly
because they're getting so expensive elsewhere (but I'll find a use for
them soon enough!).

Mike, KK6GM

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Tue Jan 10 21:42:15 1995
Message-Id: <199501102240.AA15336@rhumba.opal.com.au>
From: Paul Taylor <pt@opal.com.au>
Subject: Re: MOSFETs
Date: Wed, 11 Jan 95 9:39:27 EDT

John Seboldt was remembering MOSFETS...

> Is that MPF121 still easily available?

Not here, I haven't seen them for sale or used in circuits for years. I think
the original manufacturer of our MPF121's was Motorola. These were the ones in
the funny plastic case, with 4 bent legs made of flat, bendable metal. I used
to think they looked like a satellite! They came with unbent legs, to allow
them to be mounted flush with the copper tracks. To insert them into a PC board
meant bending each of the legs at right angles. You always had to drill out the
holes in the board to 1/16", since the flat metal legs would not fit through
normal holes.

After a few years, someone produced a metal can mosfet MPF121 equivalent, with 4 wire leads, called the MFE131. Electrically, it was a drop-in replacement. I used these in a few front ends. I think the drain was internally connected to the can. I haven't seen these around recently, either.

After MOSFET front ends came GASFETS, which took over in VHF and UHF mast head preamps and receiver front ends. Then, as we were saying, HF receiver front ends went all low-gain and SBL-1 based. I must say, it was fun being able to tune up an RF amp and mixer pair of MOSFET stages for "maximum smoke" in the amateur tradition. Tuning up for best noise figure and cross-mod performance just doesn't seem as intuitively pleasing 8^)

Regards,

Paul Taylor, VK3BLY
pt@opal.com.au

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Jan 10 02:36:31 1995
Date: Mon, 9 Jan 95 20:55:14 -0600
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Message-Id: <9501100255.AA13796@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>
Subject: N4AOX is fox Thursday

Remember that Clay in Alcoa, TN is the fox on Thursday night US time (Jan 13, 0000-0100Z 7.101 up; 0115-0300Z 7.041 up).

Looks like he wanted to do over 2 hrs. Hoping the thunderboomers don't show up in Texas as predicted.

This is, of course, the CW one.
Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60 adams@sgi.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Jan 10 17:20:36 1995
Date: Tue, 10 Jan 95 10:05:41 MST
From: miker@cc.com (Mike Robinson)
Message-Id: <9501101705.AA05074@cc.com >
Subject: Norcal 40 4sale

Norcal 40 for sale. \$100. Assembled and QSO'd.
Includes UPS ground in US48. e-mail direct to miker@cc.com
Please do not go through qrp-l list.

7.3 Michael

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Jan 10 05:12:28 1995
From: rohrwerk@holonet.net
Date: Mon, 9 Jan 1995 21:57:36 -0800
Message-Id: <199501100557.VAA00637@holonet.net>
Subject: Ocean State exists?

On 01-04-95 torell@sicom.com wrote to qrp-l@netcom.com:

> I sent an order by fax to Ocean State in late December, and have not
> been able to get them to answer the phone since then; either 1-800 or
> regular, ... Anybody know if they are still in business?
>

Last time I called, about 6 months ago, there was no answer, except for a fax
tone after many rings. This went on for several days. I have long since given
up on them, since many other good sources are available.

: John Seboldt rohrwerk@holonet.net / I am Bach of Borg...
: Amateur radio K0JD... / your style will be
: Church of the Annunciation, / assimilated.
: Minneapolis /

-> Alice4Mac 2.3 E QWK Eval:05Mar94

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Jan 10 04:06:39 1995
Date: Mon, 9 Jan 1995 22:38:23 -0500 (EST)
From: Michael Marmor <mmarmor@pluto.njcc.com>
Subject: OHR WM-1 hints?
Message-Id: <Pine.BSI.3.91.950109223644.1268A-100000@pluto.njcc.com>

After reading how pleased everyone in the group seems to be with
their OHR WM-1 watt-meter kits; I decided to order one today while
they were still on sale (\$59 'till March I think). Are there any
hints or mods I should know before I start building? I remember
some messages a while ago about adding an LED to remind you that
the unit was turned on. Any other ideas to improve the WM-1?

73
Michael, AA2UJ
mmarmor@pluto.njcc.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Jan 10 06:37:43 1995
Date: Tue, 10 Jan 1995 11:25:21 +0200 (EET)
From: "Arjen Raateland, VYH/vet, puh. 90-4028 350" <Arjen.Raateland@vyh.fi>
Subject: Re: OHR WM-1 hints?
Message-Id: <01HLOHB6CNDE91WUB0@vyh22.vyh.fi>

>After reading how pleased everyone in the group seems to be with
>their OHR WM-1 watt-meter kits; I decided to order one today while
>they were still on sale (\$59 'till March I think). Are there any
>hints or mods I should know before I start building? I remember
>some messages a while ago about adding an LED to remind you that
>the unit was turned on. Any other ideas to improve the WM-1?
>
>73
>Michael, AA2UJ
>mmarmor@pluto.njcc.com

Hi,

I built my WM-1 a few weeks ago. I added a DC power jack of the type used in the QRP Spirit and can't remember any longer if I put in a 9 V battery in at all. I use a 12 V 2 Ah lead gel battery and distribute power using a box with a lot of terminals and an automatic charger circuit (transformer is external) built in. I will have to take a big battery and the distribution box along for field operation anyway, so I don't see any reason to put in a small (expensive) 9 V battery into the WM-1. The WM-1 works OK at 12 Volts, too. The DC jack should disconnect the built-in battery (ground lead) when a plug is inserted. Also add an idiot diode in series with the external power connection. A 1N4148 will do.

Something I picked up in recent a Dutch RA magazine about the type of directional couplers as used in the WM-1: ground the 10 or so turn primary of T2 to the free end of the braid of the piece of coax through T1 instead of straight to the PC board ground. I don't know what it does yet, but of course it's supposed to be an improvement. I haven't tried it out, though. It's easy to take this possible modification into account when preparing the toroids and the circuit board and then try out both configurations.

Also you might use solder pins instead of the jumper that needs to be cut after calibrating. Just solder a thin wire between the pins for calibration. If you follow the OHR approach, put in a short jumper, calibrate the meter, cut the jumper and then later want to recalibrate for some reason, you will very likely unsolder the loose ends of the jumper from the PC board. Two wire ends of a few centimeters each as a jumper would probably do the same trick. The connection doesn't need to be minimal length.

Good luck,

73 de OH2ZAZ
Arjen Raateland, Helsinki

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Tue Jan 10 17:20:04 1995
Date: Tue, 10 Jan 1995 13:02:18 -0500 (EST)
From: Michael Marmor <mmarmor@pluto.njcc.com>
Subject: Re: OHR WM-1 hints?
Message-Id: <Pine.BSI.3.91.950110125848.9214A-100000@pluto.njcc.com>

On Tue, 10 Jan 1995, Brien Pepperdine wrote:

>
>
> Sale price of the WM-1 is 69.95 I think - given the sale price of the
> catalog I rec'd in Dec. from OHR I would not think he has dropped it
> another 10 from the standard price of 79.95.

You are correct the price is in fact 69.95. I goofed....
I am told I will receive my kit in a few days!! :-)

73 Michael, AA2UJ
mmarmor@pluto.njcc.com

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Tue Jan 10 16:36:33 1995
From: JEVERHART@cayman.vf.ge.com
Date: Tue, 10 Jan 1995 12:11:33 -0500 (EST)
Message-Id: <950110121133.2200f57a@cayman.vf.ge.com>
Subject: OK, now what?

I noticed yesterday that the usual torrent of stuff from qrp-1 had been reduced to a mere trickle. When I carefully read the headers of the messages I HAD received, it was evident that they were all addressed directly to me, not through the list.

I queried the majordomo with a list and found that I was no longer on the qrp-1! Then I requested a "who qrp-1" to confirm it. Unless my server went down and choked up netcom, who cut me off in disgust, I don't know what happened. Direct e-mail to several folks with whom I was communicating apparently suffered no ill effects.

Has anyone else had the same problems?...Of course if they did they probably won't get this message ;-). That's kind of in the same category as the 'Phone Company trouble number. How do you call it for service if your phone doesn't work?

72/73,

Joe E. N2CX

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Jan 10 20:28:33 1995
From: JEVERHART@cayman.vf.ge.com
Date: Tue, 10 Jan 1995 12:11:33 -0500 (EST)
Message-Id: <950110121133.2200f57a@cayman.vf.ge.com>
Subject: OK, now what?

I noticed yesterday that the usual torrent of stuff from qrp-l had been reduced to a mere trickle. When I carefully read the headers of the messages I HAD received, it was evident that they were all addressed directly to me, not through the list.

I queried the majordomo with a list and found that I was no longer on the qrp-l! Then I requested a "who qrp-l" to confirm it. Unless my server went down and choked up netcom, who cut me off in disgust, I don't know what happened. Direct e-mail to several folks with whom I was communicating apparently suffered no ill effects.

Has anyone else had the same problems?...Of course if they did they probably won't get this message ;-). That's kind of in the same category as the 'Phone Company trouble number. How do you call it for service if your phone doesn't work?

72/73,

Joe E. N2CX

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Jan 11 00:45:17 1995
From: N8ET@delphi.com
Date: Tue, 10 Jan 1995 22:15:26 -0500 (EST)
Subject: ONER info From Kanga US
Message-Id: <01HLP40WI7XM93A02C@delphi.com>

I have been following the discussion on the "Exploding Oner" with some interest. Rick tells me that he has received 5 reports of ONERS that exploded. I would appreciate any info the owners can give me about the cap that blew up - especially the voltage rating on the case. If you have a ONER that is non-functional or explosive (!), please let me know and I will replace the capacitor.

Some of the kits were sent with substitute transistors. Some of the substitutes used had a base configuration that was reverse from the original. The kits that were shipped from Kanga US should have had a sheet included that specified the base configuration for all the transistors that had been used in the ONER, along with information on US substitutes. If you have a ONER TX that you feel had the wrong transistors - please contact me so that I can ship replacements and the info sheet!

I will cover replacement parts for any of the ONER TX's that were purchased thru Kanga US.

If you have had trouble with a Kanga Kit - please send me some e-mail and let me know....

72/73 - Bill - N8ET
Kanga US
n8et@delphi.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Jan 10 20:50:27 1995
Date: Tue, 10 Jan 1995 11:30:09 -0700 (MST)
From: Rick Zabrodski <zabrodsk@med.ucalgary.ca>
Subject: oner schematic
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950110112546.3030G-100000@ume>

ONER schematic is on pg 64 of Oct. 94 QST

I note in the reveiw article he note the capacitance in the circuit pulls the xtal freq above 14.060.....I noted the same thing last night.
Will pick up T3 tommorrow.

Dr. Rick Zabrodski BSc, MD, CCFP(E) * VE6GK
Email: zabrodsk@med.ucalgary.ca * NorCal 519 ARCI 7099 GQRP 8329
Phone 403-271-5123 Fax 403-225-1276 * "Power is no subsitute for skill"

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Jan 10 01:07:43 1995
Date: Mon, 9 Jan 1995 14:16:19 -0800 (PST)
From: Jeff Jones <jeffj@crl.com>
Subject: Re: oner, twoer, twofer?
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950109141138.12048A-100000@crl.crl.com>

On Sun, 8 Jan 1995 JEVERHART@cayman.vf.ge.com wrote:

> I'm not real sure what's up but I experienced a smiliar problem with the oner.
> If key the rig and you have no vfo hooked up to the npn transistor TR1, its
> collector can sit at a dc level of several volts. This can try to turn on TR3,
> making it a dead short circuit to ground. This can cook TR2 and TR3. With an
> rf signal applied, current through these devices is limited by the ac
> impedance of the RFC.

I don't have the schematic in front of me isn't TR1 a xtal oscillator? I put power to my Oner and saw a puff of smoke too. I haven't ran the problem down yet but I assumed maybe wrongly that the xtal oscillator

runs all the time and only feeds the signal when you key down. Also how much can you expect the variable cap to pull the signal? Scratching my head over all this. 8-)

Jeff

jeffj@crl.com | When I gave food to the poor, they call me a saint.
AB6MB | When I asked why the poor had no food, they call me a
| communist. Dom Camara KPFA 94.1 Bay Area Progressive Radio!

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Jan 10 03:38:45 1995
From: JEVERHART@cayman.vf.ge.com
Date: Mon, 9 Jan 1995 22:58:38 -0500 (EST)
Message-Id: <950109225838.2200aa8b@cayman.vf.ge.com>
Subject: Re: oner, twoer, twofer?

Rick,

Come to think of it, the transistors may not be destroyed. FETs have a kind of self-saving feature unlike bipolar transistors. When they get hot, they tend to increase in resistance and limits their short-circuit current. This may also have "saved" TR2. Check 'em out.

One of the other comments re Digi-Key was that you pay a high price for small orders. This is indeed true, but sometimes you just don't care. If there is no convenient local source of components, you don't mind paying a premium for fast mail-order service. And if you face a minimum order situation, well, just order some stuff you might otherwise have not bothered to get. BTW, I always order a few extra parts beyond my immediate needs. Cuts down on "emergency" orders in the future. Plus it might gain you friends among the local homebrewers if you have something they need. Kind of a neighborly (or is it neighbourly up there) thing to do like getting advice here on QRP-L.

Keep us posted.

72/73,

Joe E. N2CX

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Jan 10 23:28:39 1995
Message-Id: <199501102105.PAA01464@ns1.arlut.utexas.edu>
Date: 10 Jan 1995 15:02:37 U
From: "rohre" <rohre@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu>
Subject: Paddle keys

Ted Kell had asked about paddles and named Bencher, Kent, and Jones.

The one he was not aware of is the Vibroplex, made by the company that is over 100 years old, and made the "Bug" keys that became one of their logos. They are still in the Northeast U.S. and advertise in QST among others. I am sorry I do not have the address here at work. Will post that later, if someone else does not.

I have a small amount of experience with the Bencher and Kent. The Bencher works ok, but from a straight key person of J-38 experience, and more recently, a Kent straight key, the Bencher spring mechanism is a bit fragile, and easily upset at Field Days and such. However, the Bencher was easy to repair if you did not lose the spring in the grass!

The one Kent paddle I tried was amazingly stiff compared to how nice the straight Kent key works. (I built the straight from a kit). Perhaps that one was the exception.

The paddle I bought by choice was the Vibroplex brass racer. It is elegantly simple and clever in concept. The spring force is provided not by a spring, but by an adjustable set of magnets! I can set it to any style I want. It is sturdy and robust as long as you do not totally disassemble the magnets from the frame. Unfortunately, initially I had to because of a stray bit of iron that affected action on one side. That may be the only disadvantage, if there are loose filings where you operate, they might migrate to the magnet face. I found mine at a swap meet, thus it had been out in the open on a table subject to parking lot dust. It was a bargain, new, from a dealer going out of business. Even at the normal price, it is good value for the money. It has a stained wood base, as well as a massive bottom plate. It does not move around on the table, and comes with wire to hook up to your keyer or rig. You provide the plug. Tools for adjustment, (Allen wrench) comes with it. The directions are very complete, and I did manage the complete disassembly and reassembly with a good light, and the drawings that came with it. A chrome plated model is also available, but the brass has not turned on mine. It is not gloss lacquered but that would be a way to preserve the bright brass look.

I am not a "speed merchant" so will defer to the true Paddle brass pounders for longer term experience with these paddles.

The bearing assembly of the Jones paddle intrigues me. It should be smooth if the ball bearings are of good quality. I would like to hear comments on any and all paddles.

72 and 73,
Stuart
K5KVH GQRP 4943.....

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Jan 10 19:59:36 1995
Message-Id: <9501101801.AA06662@garnet.inel.gov>
Date: Tue, 10 Jan 1995 11:02:11 -0700
From: LVE1@inel.gov (Larry East)
Subject: QRP Rigs for sale (NOT mine!)

I saw two for sale notices on packet last night that might be of interest to someone on the list:

TenTec 505 with power supply and mike "in excellent condition" -- wants offer.
Contact: Cal, KF7ET, 208-357-7431.

"Heath HW-9 QRP Station" (no price or details given).
Contact: Jack, N9IIF, 815-568-6913.

I have no personal interest in these items... just passing the info along for those who don't "do packet".

"Any opinions expressed herein are my own and probably do
not agree with those of my employer, the U.S. Government
or my spouse"

--... --

Larry V. East (W1HUE)
Idaho National Engineering Laboratory
e-mail: LVE1@inel.gov
voice: (208) 533-4005 fax: (208) 533-4207

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Jan 10 03:56:41 1995
Date: Mon, 9 Jan 95 22:12:09 PST
From: dh@deneb.csustan.edu (Doug Hendricks)
Message-Id: <9501100612.AA08638@deneb.csustan.edu>
Subject: QRP SSB Contest

Hey guys, don't forget that Sunday afternoon is the annual ARCI SSB Sprint. The rules have been changed this year to allow for any 4 hours of operation in the 12:00 - 8:00 local time frame. I plan to operate at Vern Wright's shack, we will be using his excellent antenna system, and plan on operating on 20, 40 and 75 meters. We will be using KI6DS as a call, so if you hear us give us a call. We plan on operating 15 KHz up from the bottom edge of the general portion of the phone band. Hope to work you.
72, Doug

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Jan 10 05:14:41 1995
From: rohrwerk@holonet.net
Date: Mon, 9 Jan 1995 21:57:27 -0800
Message-Id: <199501100557.VAA00631@holonet.net>

Subject: Re: R2 diplexer and pream

On 01-01-95 k23690@proffa.cc.tut.fi wrote to qrp-1@netcom.com:

> The maximum recommended input to the SBL-1 mixer is about 0 dBm and
> with 8 dB of mixer and diplexer losses the output is just under 100 mV
> RMS. Amplifying this by 40 dB and we end up at 10 V RMS, which is far
> too much for a unipolar 12 V supply. A 30 dB preamp would be more
> appropriate.

Interesting. Will have to look into this. But he still got third order intercept figures right about at the limits of the mixers, didn't he?

Then you wrote regarding the W7Z0I proposed preamp modification, that claims a reduction in noise figure from 20 to 12 dB:

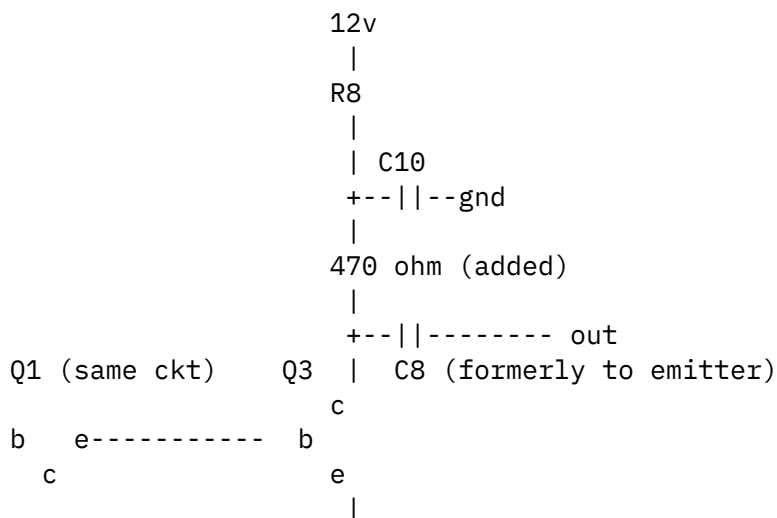
> This is very interesting as Rick said in the R1 article (QST Aug.
> 1992) that the calculated noise figure was 14 dB (7 dB mixer losses, 2
> dB losses in the diplexer and 5 dB preamp noise figure) and that the
> measured noise figure was 4 to 6 dB worse and attributed the
> difference to the 1/f noise at low IF (audio) frequencies.

>
> If John's claim is correct,

[actually John, K7R0's claim, not mine!]

> the preamp noise figure would be negative
> ! (or Rick incorrectly attributes the excessive noise figure to 1/f
> noise instead of a larger preamp noise figure than expected).
>

Yes, it does sound a little "fishy", as we say. The mod is as follows:



```

100 ohm (added)
+-----||-----gnd
R9      10 uF (added
|
Gnd

```

I don't see how this can reduce noise figure, unless something was REALLY screwed up in the gain distribution of the total receiver. Until I get a better explanation, I am not ready to cobble up my already-nearly-destroyed-from-lots-of-resoldering homemade PC board with another mod!

These are interesting detail questions, but do not at this moment degrade the fine sound and excellent overall performance of the design.

```

: John Seboldt rohrwerk@holonet.net / I am Bach of Borg...
: Amateur radio K0JD... / your style will be
: Church of the Annunciation, / assimilated.
: Minneapolis /

```

-> Alice4Mac 2.3 E QWK Eval:05Mar94

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Jan 10 22:44:20 1995
 Message-Id: <sf127845.029@novell.com>
 Date: Tue, 10 Jan 1995 12:06:10 -0700
 From: Craig Teerlink <Craig_Teerlink@Novell.COM>
 Subject: Ramsey gear

bbaileyh@indiana.edu asked about Ramsey gear.

I've been exposed to several of their kits and can't recommend them. The boards are marginal quality, the parts are substituted often times without regard to original specs and needs, and worst of all, the designs themselves resemble class projects from a high school electronics course.

Regarding poor design, here's a recent example. I built their 2M VHF receiver last fall as a monitor receiver so an elementary school could pick up space shuttle audio that is crossbanded by a local ham. I ran into three problems that I recall.

Problem one was that the VFO tune pot covered 5 Mhz in 3/4 of a turn. It was nearly impossible to fine tune a particular 10 khz FM channel. Adding a fine tune trim pot in series with the main tune pot was the cheap and dirty solution.

Problem two was that the VFO coil was poorly attached to the board, unshielded, and very sensitive to proximity capacitance of, for example, your hand or vibration/shock to the cabinet. The

VFO is right behind the tune pot, so every time your hand approached to tune knob, the rig changed frequency by 10-50 khz. Building and installing a shielding can for the VFO section solved this problem.

The last problem was the real head scratcher. The squelch didn't work right. You couldn't tune a frequency if the squelch was closed. If you tuned a frequency with the squelch opened, when the signal went away the squelch would close and never re-open, no matter how strong the signal re-appeared. It took me about an hour to figure the symptoms were caused by nothing in the rig being voltage regulated. (Their excuse for voltage regulation was a current limiting/voltage divider resistor to the VFO.) So when the signal went away, the squelch closed, the audio amp drew less current, the voltage to the VFO rose, and the VFO shifted frequency! With the VFO now listening to a different frequency, the rig never heard the signal when it re-appeared. Adding a simple 9V zener fixed that one.

The rig is finally working, but I'll never buy another. Even though the kit was only \$39, I figure I spent two or three times that troubleshooting/fixing stupid design flaws. Next time I'll just buy a \$100 Radio Shack scanner and hand it to the school! And this isn't the only one of Ramsey's products I've seen problems with. Nobody in my area will buy them anymore.

Fer what it's worth.....

Craig Teerlink
cteerlin@novell.com
KF70Y

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Tue Jan 10 08:30:03 1995
Date: Tue, 10 Jan 1995 02:39:40 +000 (UTC)
From: Rich Mulvey <rkm@vectorbd.com>
Subject: Re: Ramsey hr-20
Message-Id: <Pine.3.87.9501100240.B4158-0100000@vectorbd.vectorbd.com>

On Mon, 9 Jan 1995, bbaileyh wrote:

> Has anyone out there tried the 20 meter version of the Ramsey kits?? Both
> receiver and transmitter? If anyone has any feedback or comments on the
> operation of these kits, please let me know, OK? Thanks for your help.

Well, a friend of mine built the 20M receiver. It received fine. The problem was that it received everything from DC to daylight, without prejudice. All at the same time. :-)

Seriously, though - the parts quality was low (even in my newbie opinion) the PC board had two etching errors - (it's safe to assume that VCC and ground are not supposed to be connected together without any intervening circuitry. Good thing we didn't try it with the gel-cell...) All in all, you're better off getting a copy of the QRP Notebook and building a rcvr yourself.

- Rich

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Tue Jan 10 10:30:51 1995
Date: Tue, 10 Jan 1995 08:18:00 -0500
From: "david (d.) burniston" <davidgb@bnr.ca>
Message-Id: <"9230 Tue Jan 10 08:19:02 1995"@bnr.ca>
Subject: re:Ramsey hr-20

bbaileyh@indiana.edu wrote...

>Has anyone out there tried the 20 meter version of the Ramsey kits??
Both
>reciever and transmitter? If anyone has any feedback or comments on the
>operation of these kits,please let me know, OK? Thanks for your help.
>
>

I bought an HR30 a couple of years ago. You don't get much for the money. I think it cost me about \$40 Canadian with case (plastic). I just bought an NE30-40 for \$60 Canadian and it's a superhet transceiver.

The Ramsey receiver is a direct conversion rx with an NE602 and a 386 audio amp on a board - that's it. To make it useful, you need to add audio filtering.

Can't comment on the transmitters, but don't think I'd be tempted to get one.

=====
Dave Burniston, Bell Northern Research Ottawa, ON Canada

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email: davidgb@bnr.ca

QRP - DOING MORE WITH LESS de VE3LF0/qrp

All opinions are my own and do not necessarily reflect the views of
my employer, co-workers or any other person, real or imaginary.

=====

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Tue Jan 10 22:55:04 1995
Date: Tue, 10 Jan 1995 11:41:51 PST
From: Pat Taber <ptaber@xis.xerox.com>
Message-Id: <9501101541.A15817@xis.xerox.com>
Subject: Re[2]: OHR WM-1 hints?

> The WM-1 works OK at 12 Volts, too. The DC jack should disconnect the
>built-in battery (ground lead) when a plug is inserted.

Just a not-too-educated question... my first thought in such a case would be to
disconnect the hot lead. Why disconnect the ground lead? I realize either one
would take the battery out, but is there an advantage?

Learning something new every day,,,,

>>>==>PStJTT

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Tue Jan 10 23:05:18 1995
Date: Tue, 10 Jan 1995 11:41:52 PST
From: Pat Taber <ptaber@xis.xerox.com>
Message-Id: <9501101541.A15821@xis.xerox.com>
Subject: Since I'm asking dumb questions....

...there must be people in the QRP world who have faced this. I have a
QRO rig (TS-440) that I want to limit to 5 watts out. I can use the
power control, but in the five watt area it's pretty touchy and
adjusting for 5 watts today doesn't mean it will be at five watts when
I sit down at the rig tomorrow.

I've heard that I can use a voltage at the ALC pin to control output.
Is it as simple as hooking up a power source and a resistor? Is it
more precise and dependable to limit power this way? I've never done
this before....

Thanks es 73,
>>>==>PStJTT

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Tue Jan 10 17:59:53 1995

Date: Wed, 31 Aug 94 08:59:26 MDT
From: draperbl@mdlchtm.eece.unm.edu (Bruce L. Draper)
Message-Id: <9408311459.AA16729@mdlchtm.eece.unm.edu>
Subject: Sony radios, NCJ stuff

I signed onto this list last week and posted a request for info on the Sony line of SW receivers. A couple of readers were very helpful . . . thanks! (Steve -- I've ordered the 7600G).

Before I sign off, let me plant a seed. I'm looking for anyone who might be interested in writing a QRP contesting column for the National Contest Journal. The magazine comes out every 2 months and could provide more QRP exposure. The column could contain anything from contest announcements to results, operating tips to product reviews, . . . If you're interested, give me a call and we'll discuss it.

Thanks again for the help.

-Bruce Draper, AA5B
Editor, NCJ
home: 505-821-5455

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Tue Jan 10 13:13:53 1995
From: JDuffy@aol.com
Date: Tue, 10 Jan 1995 10:13:15 -0500
Message-Id: <950110101314_4330423@aol.com>
Subject: subscribe

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